

Sample Tennessee Public Charter School Application Timeline

Beginning in 2013, charter school sponsors applying to local boards of education for authorization must submit their applications by April 1. However, applications will be accepted during the fall of 2012 by those local boards of education that have an October 1 deadline.

The time for local boards of education to review applications was extended by the Tennessee General Assembly, effective July 1, 2012. So, even though the application deadlines for fall 2012 and spring 2013 are different, the number of days for review will be the same.

Charter Application Deadline	October 1, 2012	April 1, 2013
Sponsor submits letter of intent to Dept. of Ed.	August 2, 2012	January 30, 2013
Sponsor submits application to local board	October 1, 2012	April 1, 2013
Local board rules on initial application (90 days)	December 31, 2012	July 1, 2013
<i>If approved, local board signs charter agreement, which includes all elements of the application.</i>		
<i>If denied, board sends written objective reasons for denial to sponsor. If denied in whole or in part based on substantial negative fiscal impact, 2011 PC 466 requires detailed statistics to be included with written denial.</i>		
Sponsor submits amended application within 15 days of receipt of grounds for denial.	January 15, 2013	July 16, 2013
Local board rules on amended application (30 days)	February 14, 2013	August 15, 2013
<i>If approved, local board signs charter agreement, which includes all elements of the application.</i>		
<i>If denied, board sends written objective reasons for denial to sponsor. At this point, the appeal may go directly to the state board of education, or first to the treasurer.</i>		
Local board sends written objective reasons for denial to sponsor, and required information to treasurer within 5 days.	February 19, 2012	August 20, 2013
Sponsor may submit response and supporting documentation to treasurer.	February 24, 2013	August 25, 2013
Treasurer determines reasonableness of denial within 30 days of receiving all requested information.	March 26, 2013	September 24, 2013
<i>If the treasurer determines that the LEA established that approval of this charter school application would have a substantial negative fiscal impact, the process ends. But, if the treasurer determines that the LEA did not establish that approval of this charter school application would have a substantial negative fiscal impact, the following procedure applies.</i>		
Sponsor may appeal to state board of education within 5 days of the treasurer's determination.	March 31, 2013	September 29, 2013
State board of education or its designee holds a hearing in the LEA and rules within 60 days of receipt of the appeal.	May 30, 2013	November 28, 2013
<i>If the amended application is denied—but not based in whole or in part on a substantial negative fiscal impact—the following procedure applies.</i>		
Sponsor appeals to state board of education within 10 days of final local decision.	February 24, 2013	August 25, 2013

State board of education or its designee holds a hearing in the LEA and rules within 60 days of receipt of the appeal.	April 25, 2013	October 24, 2013
<i>The state board can affirm the denial by the local board of education or remand the decision with written instructions for local board approval of the charter.</i>		
Planning period (depending on timing of approval)	2 to 8 months	8-13 months
School opens	July/August 2013	July/August 2014